

City of Burlington's Parallel Justice Commission Status Report 2011

Background & History:

In July of 2006, Parallel Justice for Victims of Crime was established in Burlington, Vermont -- the first of its kind in the nation. This project was created through the vision of Susan Herman, former Director of the National Center for Victims of Crime. In the five years since its inception it has contacted 7,596 victim's and provided a variety of services ranging from supportive listening and information and referral to financial assistance and property repair.

Parallel Justice has two components. First, it directly assists victims of crimes such as vandalism, burglary, theft, assault and property crime and supports existing services in responding to survivors of homicide, sexual and domestic assault. Through the victims fund and relationships with local business, Parallel Justice offers victims financial and logistical assistance to help victims regain safety in the wake of crime. Second, the program provides an opportunity for victims to meet with city and state officials in the form of the Parallel Justice Commission to share their stories, illuminate and challenge barriers facing victims, and to improve the treatment of victims in Burlington and throughout the state.

The concept of Parallel Justice changes the paradigm. Instead of asking victims to seek justice solely through the criminal justice process, we instead ask victims to define the problems they face—and then, we do our best to address them. In this new world, there would be a victim-oriented justice process that would kick in with the occurrence of a crime and attend to the needs of victims of all crime, violent and non-violent. Offenders, communities, and society at large would be asked to help victims rebuild their lives—to help reintegrate victims back into productive community life.”

Susan Herman: Seeking Parallel Justice: A New Agenda for the Victims Movement, speech given at the National Press Club Luncheon, 2000

Guiding Principles of Parallel Justice

By Susan Herman

1. Justice requires helping victims of crime rebuild their lives.
2. All victims deserve justice.
3. All victims should be presumed credible until there is reason to believe otherwise.
4. Victims' safety should be a top priority.
5. Victims should experience no further harm.
6. Victims' rights should be implemented and enforced.
7. Victims should have opportunities to talk about their experiences and their needs.
8. Victims should be told what happened to them was wrong, and that every effort will be made to help them rebuild their lives.
9. Victims' needs should be addressed through a comprehensive, coordinated communal response.
10. Decisions about how to address victims' needs should be based on sound information and research.

Crime in Burlington, a snapshot:

With majestic views of our two tallest mountains and several miles of shoreline on Lake Champlain, Burlington is Vermont's largest city, with a growing population of just under 40,000. Health care, legal, financial and social services are accessible by bus or within walking distance of most city residences. It is home to three colleges and a nationally recognized pedestrian mall anchors its retail sector. With an active and historic downtown and an engaged citizenry, Burlington has a strong sense of community. With all these advantages come challenges as well.

Burlington is a city in flux. It has become dramatically more racially and ethnically diverse over the last 20 years. Overall, 9.1% of city residents identify themselves as "other than white" and "not Hispanic". This is due in large part to Vermont Refugee Resettlement's efforts to assist 1,422 immigrants from Vietnam, Bosnia, Bhutan, Sudan, Somalia and Somalia and the Democratic Republic of Congo (among others) relocate to Vermont in the last 5 years, many of them to Burlington. Few are fluent in English when they arrive. This influx diversifies the population and brings a wealth of energy and opportunity to the community. However, it also challenges Burlington to adapt to changing cultural norms, providing appropriate services and mediating inter-cultural as well as inter-personal conflict. This shift has increased demand for limited resources.

According to *Crime: State Ranking 2010*, (Morgan, Kathleen & Scott, Boba, Rachel, FAU) Vermont is the 2nd safest state in the nation as well as one of the most rural; many country roads remain unmarked, and nearby cities New York, Montreal and Boston have larger populations than the entire state. Statewide Crime Statistics compiled in 2009 by the Department of Public Safety, showed that Vermonters experienced \$19 million in financial losses due to property crime. Theft (larcenies) comprised the largest single category of monetary loss at \$8 million followed by burglary at \$4 million and destruction of property/vandalism at \$3 million. It is worth noting that 69% of reported burglaries were of residences, not businesses.

By comparing these statewide statistics with figures compiled by the Burlington Police department for the same year, it is evident that Burlington accounts for nearly half the crime in Chittenden County and also has a higher incidence of crime than the rest of the state. This is not surprising given that at 40,000+ residents Burlington is Vermont's largest city. This number includes 15,000+ students from 4 colleges, many of whom are not aware of the need for precautions to guard valuables, such as locking bikes and not leaving valuables in cars. Of 781 robberies and burglaries reported in Chittenden County in 2009, the Burlington Police Department recorded 263 of them. There were an additional 300 thefts (larcenies) from buildings, 469 from motor vehicles and 39 from a person. The Statewide Crime Statistics reports that the most commonly stolen items are money, purses/wallets, bicycles and vehicle parts and accessories. Other property crimes included 103 acts of graffiti vandalism, 455 unlawful mischief (including vandalism to vehicles – such as smashing a window to grab valuables inside) and 233 unlawful acts of unlawful mischief to buildings (not graffiti).

With more people come more incidences of interpersonal violence as well. Again, using 2009 numbers, there were 2,374 simple assaults statewide, 200 of which occurred in Burlington in addition to 39 aggravated assaults and 19 assaults on law enforcement officers. The Burlington Police Department responded to 709 calls about domestic disturbances; including 106 domestic assaults and 33 aggravated domestic assault.

With the notable exception of sexual assault, where sensitive accommodations have been made in

Vermont to provide medical and follow-up services to victims while protecting their anonymity, virtually all assistance available to crime victims require a police report. Vermont's Victim Compensation Program helps victims of violent crime when a law enforcement officer finds probable cause, but only with immediate needs such as medical expenses, relocation, rental assistance and counseling. Vermont's restitution statute is one of the most progressive in the country, but restitution is only available when ordered by a judge post-conviction. For property crimes, aside from insurance coverage, restitution or a civil suit are the only ways victims may recoup financial losses due to property crime.

Furthermore, a comprehensive view of crime needs to take into account that many are never reported to the police at all. The Vermont Justice Research Center (VJRC) conducted a victimization survey of 1,437 households and found that there are three times as many aggravated and simple assaults experienced by Vermont residents than are actually reported to police. National statistics indicate that sexual assaults are even less likely to be reported. Similarly, the VJRC survey suggests that there is about twice the level of property victimization than reported. Reasons crimes are not reported range from the shame or stigma of assault, fear of retribution from a perpetrator or fear of the police themselves, to not wanting to bother the police when there's no suspect or expensive loss/damage (as in some vandalism cases or thefts). All of this suggests that many crime victims never enter the justice system and therefore are unable to access the few mechanisms that do exist to support and compensate them.

And yet, according to the Department of Justice's Office of Victims of Crime, the emotional, physical, and financial impact of crime lead to a dramatically increased likelihood of future victimization, substance abuse, mental and physical health problems, poor academic and/or employment performance and increased absenteeism. Clearly the cost to society of not addressing these needs is a compelling argument for offering better support to victims of **all** crime, regardless of the status of the offender in the criminal justice system.

Existing resources: building on strengths in the community

Burlington's social and community responses for victims have a long history of collaboration unmatched in the state. Collaboration abounds thanks to the small town feel of Burlington and the ease of connecting with other service providers, amplifying the positive impact of these hard-working organizations. Because of this, victims of crime can find many "on ramps" in order to access services.

Due in part to its population density, Burlington has a wide variety of system and community-based resources available to victims of crime. Trained advocates assist victims of domestic and sexual violence through the highly respected work of H.O.P.E. Works (Burlington's sexual violence agency), Women Helping Battered Women, SafeSpace, and the University of Vermont's Women's Center. These community-based services are all available to victims without making a report to law enforcement

In addition, there is a Domestic Violence Advocate at the Burlington Police Department, and the Chittenden Unit for Special Investigations (CUSI) responsible for criminal investigations of sexual assaults and serious child abuse has its own dedicated Victim Advocate. In Vermont, every county's State's Attorney Office (similar to a District Attorney in other states) has Victim Advocates who provide support, information and referral to needed services when if a criminal case is brought

against a suspect.¹ And finally, the Department of Corrections has a Victim Services Program that can help a victim of crime when the offender is incarcerated.

Before Parallel Justice, there was no comprehensive infrastructure to address the unmet needs of victims of unreported crimes or crimes where there is not enough evidence to prosecute. In response Susan Herman crafted the Guiding Principles listed above, and began looking for ways to implement her idea that just as we must hold offenders accountable for their actions through the criminal justice system, we need a parallel justice system devoted to helping victims rebuild their lives.

In 2006 Burlington was chosen as one of three sites for the national demonstration project, *Parallel Justice for victims of crime*. The Center for Crime Victim Services, the Burlington Police Department and the Burlington Community Justice Center partnered to provide a community- and system-based response to under-served victims of crime, in effect filling the existing gaps in services. By engaging community and government together to respond to crime victims, after 5 years the Burlington project has become a national demonstration model of a new way to serve victims, reduce the impact of crime and reduce future victimization.

Summary of Numbers

Parallel Justice Specialist contacted and cases opened:

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Victims Contacted	334	1319	1471	2196	2275
Cases Opened	182	302	337	371	323

An Ounce of Prevention

Along with responding directly to crime victims, Parallel Justice is uniquely positioned to educate the public on how to lessen the likelihood of being a victim of opportunistic crime. In an effort to mitigate the many thefts from vehicles that Parallel Justice responds to, in 2009, the Burlington Police Department began the “Ounce of Prevention” awareness building campaign. Modeled after another police department’s program discovered on the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)’s website for volunteers working with police, these “report cards” left on cars alerted drivers to possible risk factors and best practices around vehicle safety. This campaign to engage residents in awareness and mitigation had a measurable and positive effect on the number of potential car break-ins.

How it works: Trained volunteers leave inspection flyers on windshields of parked cars offering feedback to drivers on specific ways they could minimize their parked cars’ appeal to potential thieves. Factors like expensive electronics (or their charging cables) or change left in plain view; items covered with blankets or coats; or doors left unlocked/windows left open were noted along

¹

In all but the most extreme cases. In a homicide, for example, a victim Advocate would be immediately available to a victims’ surviving family

with the vehicle's location. Also included are crime avoidance tips and contact information for the Burlington Police Department and Parallel Justice for Victims of Crime.

In 2010, two students from Norwich University's *Crime Analysis and Mapping* class with Professor Max Schleuter chose the "Ounce of Prevention" campaign as their class project. Their analysis showed that the program was successful in reducing thefts from motor vehicles in Burlington. In comparing thefts from 2008-2010 in Burlington and South Burlington, they found the total number of thefts from motor vehicles in Burlington decreased significantly when the program was implemented. They also noted that the number of theft from motor vehicles increased in South Burlington during the same time period. This informed their recommendation that the Burlington Police Department continue to use this program, and that all police chiefs and administrators consider using this program to help them reduce thefts from motor vehicles in their respective jurisdictions.

The Parallel Justice Commission

The Parallel Justice Commission members were appointed by executive orders of Vermont's Governor and the Mayor of Burlington. The Commission meets on a quarterly basis and has a dual mission: to hear testimony from a victim of crime or a Parallel Justice Specialist as a formal opportunity to witness and acknowledge a victim's experience; and to eliminate systemic barriers by encouraging public-private inter-agency collaboration and policy and practice changes within agencies. In this way, the Commission reduces the impact of the system on victims of crime at multiple levels. Having these agency directors and decision makers meet quarterly and listen to victims voices has led to significant changes in how crime victims are served in Burlington.

Since 2007, the Commission has heard and responded to 13 individual cases. These cases have included sexual and domestic assaults and stalking, larcenies from a home and vehicles, burglaries, vandalism's, assaults, DUI CRASH and bike theft. Victims are supported in sharing their stories by the Parallel Justice Specialists. The Commission's role is to create recommendations and action steps based on the individual's needs and the systemic barriers the victims encountered. Below are some examples of these stories and outcomes.

A successful case from the early history of the Commission:

In January, 2008 a victim of a "simple" assault presented his case to the Commission. After being treated for his injuries, the bills he incurred at the hospital had gone into arrears while he was applying for Victims Compensation. The Commission recognized that victims should not be penalized in this way, and Commissioner Evelyn Sikorski, an employee at Fletcher Allen Health Care, collaborated with Carol Morgan of the Vermont Victims Compensation Program to create a protocol for crime-related medical bills so that people who could qualify for Victims Compensation would not see their bills go into collections. Evelyn then worked with the billing Department at Fletcher Allen to develop a new billing method. They created billing codes for victims of crime that required determination of eligibility for Victims Compensation and a supervisory review before bills are determined to be delinquent. This new coding streamlines the billing process and speeds up compensation eligibility determination and payment.

In turn, this policy at one of the largest health care providers in the state enabled the Center for Crime Victim Services to advocate for legislation mandating that all health care providers throughout the state follow similar steps to ensure charges from crime-related medical care are not subject to collection until a determination regarding eligibility for state-funded Victims

Compensation has been made. The language for this debt collection provision can be found in 13 VSA § 5366: Delay in debt collection by health care provider.

More recent Commission cases:

One night in January 2010, two perpetrators driving through residential neighborhoods smashed the windows of 46 different vehicles with a baseball bat. They were caught and arrested that same night by the Burlington Police. Parallel Justice helped 21 of the 46 victims pay the deductible on their insurance or the full amount of the repair (if victims had no comprehensive coverage) to fix their windows. Witness statements and evidence only allowed the perpetrators to be prosecuted for 8 of these acts of vandalism, although all the cars were vandalized in the same manner, at the same time. Funds to assist the victims came from both the Window Replacement Program (administered by Center for Crime Victim Services) and the Victims' Fund administered through the City of Burlington.² Both are based on financial need, but one has strict income eligibility guidelines. Each fund has approximately \$15,000 annually. Between the two funds, Parallel Justice paid out over \$6,000 to the victims of these crimes – or 1/5 of the total budget for the entire year on this single crime spree. Of the eight victims listed on the case; all were contacted by Parallel Justice, seven spoke with Parallel Justice about their experience and the resulting court case, five victims received financial assistance paying for repairs through Parallel Justice and one of the victims didn't respond to outreach attempts. Through partnership with the State's Attorney, Parallel Justice has sought reimbursement for the monies paid out from the responsible parties.

In April 2011, a victim of aggravated domestic assault met with the Commission. The victim reported damage to her vehicle was caused by her ex-partner, from whom she had a Final Relief from Abuse order in effect until 2015. A community organization working with the victim originally referred her to Parallel Justice. She continued to experience ongoing harassment from the ex-partner and was connected to the Victim Advocate at the Burlington Police Department (BPD), but lack of evidence and witnesses did not allow for prosecution, so she was again connected to Parallel Justice which can help victims of crime regardless of the status of a criminal case against a perpetrator. This case was complicated, as some of the crimes that the victim presented happened well before she lived in Vermont. However, the Commission recognized that there were places within our current system where opportunities for accountability and justice within Vermont state statutes might be possible. The state's attorney's office reviewed the full case to see if there was a way to bring criminal charges for offenses against the victim and her family. The Center for Crime Victim Services connected with partner organizations who receive federal funding through CCVS to assess ways they can better help domestic violence victims feel supported within their community. Parallel Justice tackled ways of helping the victim and her family address safety concerns around her residence and solicited donated community resources for the family as a "feel good" measure. The commission also wanted to explore current collaborations with partner organizations to check out how and if they screen families for sexual and domestic violence with clients and finally, review the Vermont stalking statute and statutory language about "threats of harm."

The Commission continues to address issues raised by these two recent cases; some action steps take longer based on the complexity of the solution, for instance: a statutory change or organizational policy change.

2

The breakdown is: Parallel Justice Victims' Fund paid 13 people (2 pending); and the City Window Replacement fund helped 6 (3 pending). Because each program maxes out at \$250, a few people with expensive glass to replace – like a rear windshield, for example – were helped out of both funds.

Estimation Guide tool for agencies and organizations:

Along with systemic changes created by individual victim cases the Estimation Guide was developed as a tool to encourage individual members of the Commission to look at their own organizations through the lens of the Parallel Justice Guiding Principles. In this process, the CCVS Program Coordinator and the Community Justice Center Site Supervisor meet with individual Commissioners to review organizational policy, advocacy and inter-agency collaboration as well as outreach and messaging. Agencies are asked to assess the ways they serve victims of crime through specific practices that apply to their area of expertise. While most agencies are already honoring many of the principles of Parallel Justice; this is a chance to think creatively about implementation through policy, practice and procedure to enhance victim sensitivity. This tool has become a valuable way to enrich the Commission's efforts and responses to victims beyond the issues raised by specific cases.

In 2010, through this process, the current practices of the Vermont Center for Crime Victim Services, the Vermont State's Attorney Victim Advocates, and one of the Commission's community representatives were reviewed and offered specific recommendations. This review is strictly voluntary and the purpose is to look at ways to enhance the Commission's organizational or community response to victims of crime. Below are some highlights from Commissioners who have completed the process.

2010:

VT Center for Crime Victim Services (CCVS):

Judy Rex, Executive Director of CCVS, reported that the estimation guide helped her assess the organizational commitment to have victim-centered services and what could be improved. It was especially valuable to Judy because the CCVS was engaging in revising its strategic plan, so it was timely and useful to be able to incorporate the estimation guide's input in that planning process. Many of the suggestions targeted the CCVS's organizational structure, creating an Employee Assistance Program for example, or making sure all staff is trained in using a trauma informed approach, not just those who specifically assist victims with issues and questions.

Judy said that overall, one of the biggest changes CCVS has seen has been to move away from treating all victims the same to allowing them to help victims who have needs that fall outside of normal guidelines. For CCVS, this means letting the victim define what they need and want, and then doing it.

CCVS Estimation Guide Implementation

In October 2010, Carol Morgan, Manager of CCVS's Compensation Program updated the Commission about further actions taken with input from the Estimation Guide. Victims' Compensation provides financial support for crime related needs for victims of serious and violent crime when probable cause of a crime has been found by a law enforcement officer.

Ideas to implement:

- Specific to domestic violence, adding a level of funding made available to pay for pet boarding or veterinary costs or pet burial/cremation if needed.
- Creating a policy to assist domestic violence victims residing on working farms to hire temporary help if the abuser was the primary staff and has been removed from the residence so that the farm can still function.
- Developing a discretionary fund to allow more flexibility in meeting victims' needs

- Addressing loss of support (i.e. wages lost) from an abuser's income when incarcerated.

To date, CCVS has implemented and approved policy changes for Victims Compensation for the first two bullets above.

State's Attorney Victim Advocate:

The role of the State's Attorney Victims' Advocate is to be a liaison between the State's Attorney's Office and victims, to keep victims informed of their rights, and to make referrals to community services (such as domestic or sexual violence agencies, community action agencies, etc...) as well as to provide comprehensive assistance with civil court, housing, employment, safety planning and emotional support.

Karen Frucci, former State's Attorney Victim Advocate, spoke about her experience using the estimation tool with advocates and other staff. She said that the conversation it engendered was very helpful, especially as a self-reflective process to go through with other advocates. When considering ideas for improvements, they faced some difficulties implementing changes and navigating bureaucracy, due to the need to be consistent across all offices in the state. However, the staff was not feeling optimistic about their ability to implement these ideas due to existing constraints on their time.

Ideas to implement:

- Collaborating more intensive with partners, and conducting joint trainings in the future
- Making more referrals to Parallel Justice as a resource when the program can help a client
- Creating a FAQ (frequently asked question) section on the website for crime victims to access information about the criminal justice system
- Create an informational brochure for people impacted by low-level crime

Community representative:

Emily Anderson had personally been affected by crime when her car was destroyed by vandals. Her work with VSA Vermont's Awareness Theater Company has provided her way to promote Parallel Justice as a community resource to her fellow Burlingtonians. "A Car Owner's Lament" tells the story of how she coped with the destruction of her car and shows how Parallel Justice could help others similarly affected by crime.

She found going through the estimation guide process to be an inspiring way to fulfill a civic duty. A key idea she took away from this process was how different a message of needing the community to support safety and justice sounds coming from a community member than from a professional in the field of victim services. Other themes that emerged were those of being able to ask questions of other commissioners as a community member, how to support resiliency in the face of difficulty and continuing to do outreach. Emily has created an annual event of showing the car owner's lament video during National Crime Victims' Rights Week each April.

Ideas to implement:

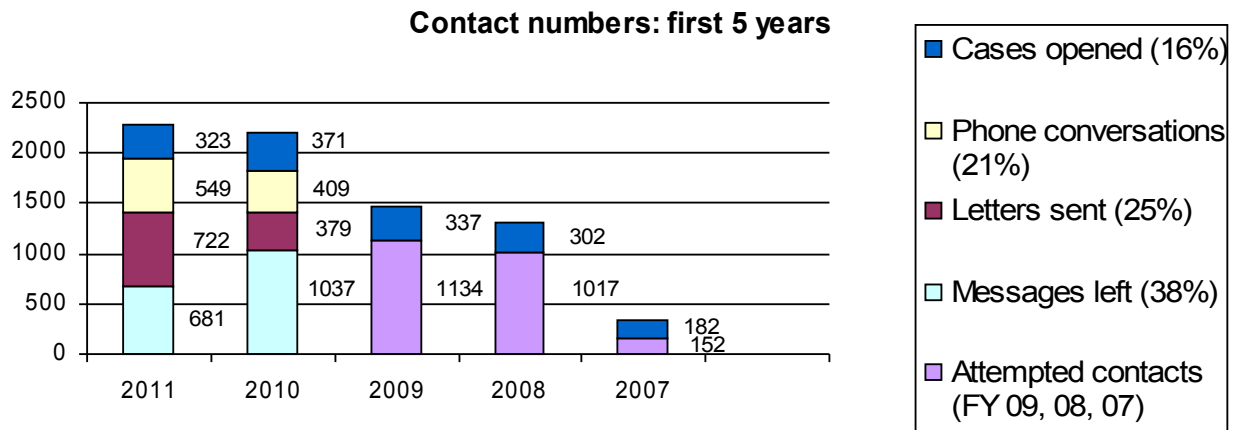
- Becoming more educated about victim issues by attending the **Vermont Victim's Assistance Academy (VVAA)**³

³ For more information about the VVAA go to www.ccvs.state.vt.us. This **free** training covers topics on trauma, crime victim rights and victimization.

- Write and send letters and information to the Front Porch Forums, as well as local newspapers to spread the word about Parallel Justice.
- Continuing to use "A Car Owner's Lament" video and play, and making a new version for VSA's public access television show interviewing Parallel Justice Commissioners in the second half of the episode.

Recommendations for the Commission: 2012

- Restructure or clarify role of the Parallel Justice Commission; creating a clearly defined job description.
- Create a form for individual victim cases that includes: a summary of the case; issues to address; action steps and identified subcommittees; or individual commissioners to work on action steps for use at all meetings.
- Identify and work through the Estimation Guide with three Commissioners.
- Identify two Commissioners to present cases from their own organizations at the Commission.
- Continue the work of the Health Care Subcommittee.



Cases and contacts

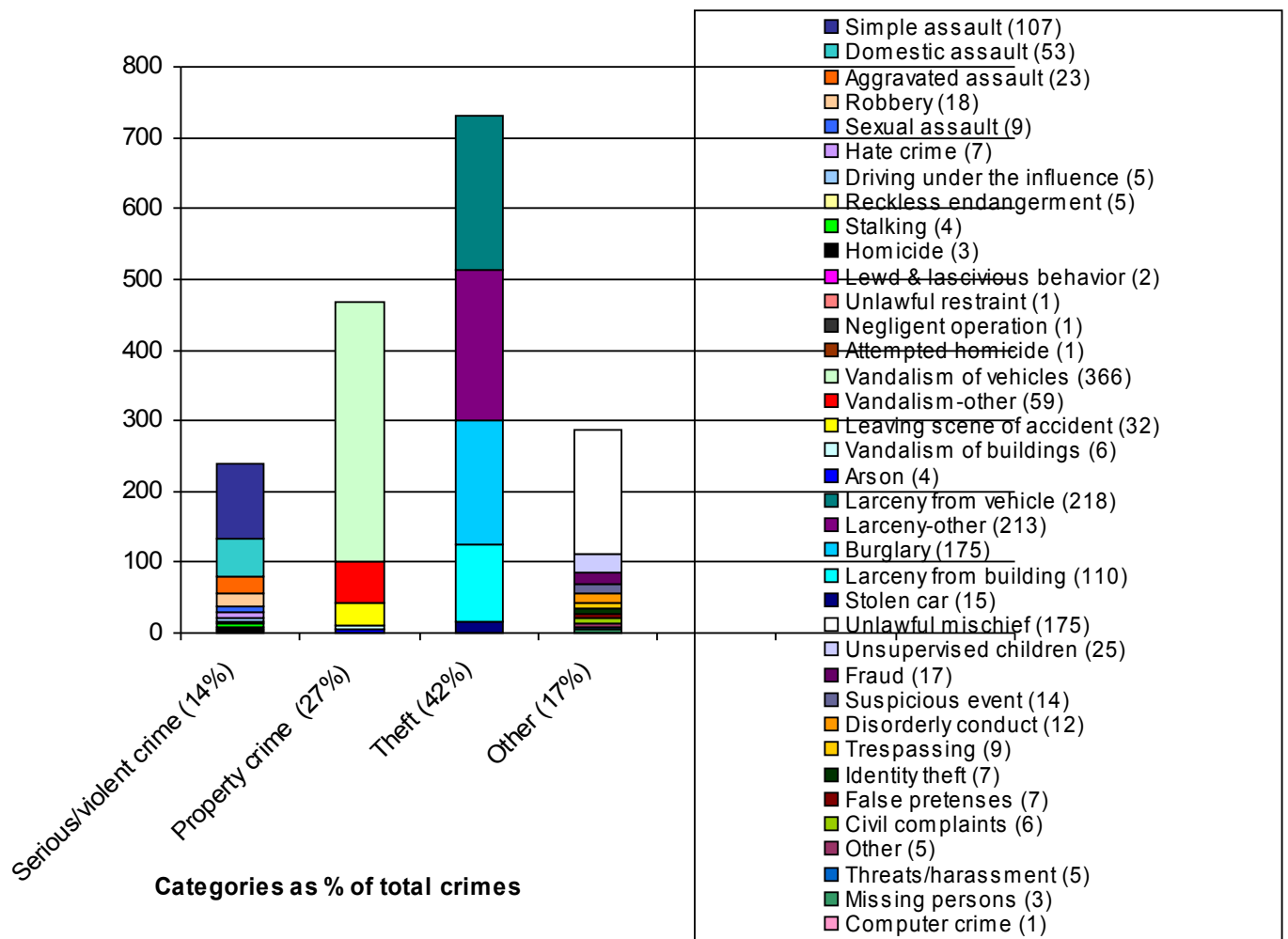
The increase in contact numbers is a function of increased capacity within the program to connect with crime victims and of outreach efforts, rather than as a result of an increase in crime. In 2007, there was a single Parallel Justice Specialist at the Community Justice Center. In 2008, an additional Specialist was added at the Police Department, as well as student interns in subsequent years to assist with calls. After three successful years, the Burlington program realized the importance of tracking how many victims we were able to simply offer an apology and support to, even if further services were not actually given. You can see that in 2010 and 2011, we were able to connect via phone conversation or letters with nearly 2/3 of the victims we tried to reach.

Common crimes

As outlined above, the charge of Parallel Justice in Burlington has been to fill the gaps in existing victim services. A large part of this work has been to serve victims of crime where a criminal justice response is unlikely to provide relief. In our mid-size city with a large student population, this translates to more than 2/3 of the crimes we assist with falling under the categories of property crimes and “quality of life” crimes where perpetrators are less likely to be caught, including: theft; vandalism; and other nuisance behavior. This is clearly reflected in the high proportion of property crimes and thefts in the chart below.⁴ For serious or violent crimes where other advocates are involved we collaborate on unmet needs, such as making arrangements to care for a homicide victim’s pet, or helping pay for a domestic violence victim to move away from an abuser and closer to a strong support system.

⁴ A case may include numerous charges, for instance, a smashed car window where something was stolen would count as both vandalism and larceny from a vehicle. If someone was injured while being mugged, that would be considered both a robbery and an assault. Therefore the total number of crimes reflected here is higher than the total number of cases we’ve opened.

Crimes experienced: first 5 years



Victim Fund Expenditures: snapshot

In the 5 years since its inception, Parallel Justice has spent just over \$57,000 on crime-related expenses; with the bulk of that money (77%) addressing *transportation issues*. When a crime occurs in Burlington, it often happens to someone whose life extends beyond the city's borders, and also beyond the reaches of Vermont's limited public transportation system. In 1990, according to the U.S. census, Vermont was the most rural state in the nation with 68% of its population living in towns of less than 2,500. Whether it's an employee who commutes into the city for work, or a resident who travels outside it for a second shift job, transportation is an essential and basic need for Vermonters.

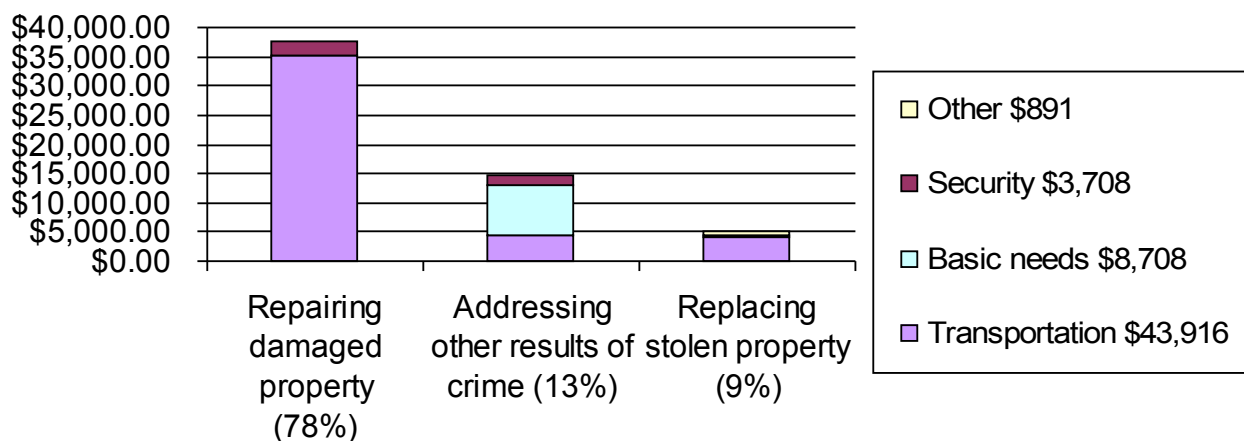
It is important to look at the different ways that need for transportation is manifested in order to gain an accurate understanding of the needs of crime victims. 80% of the program's transportation-related expenses are to **repair damage** to cars such as smashed windows or slashed tires not covered by insurance.⁵ The standard used is to return a vehicle to a level where it would pass a Vermont state safety inspection. Other common expenses include replacing side-view mirrors that have been damaged by hit and run accidents or vandalism. While assisting with cosmetic damage is rare, exceptions have been made to remove offensive or hate crime vandalism to vehicles. 10% of

⁵ The Victims' Fund is only available for uninsured losses to prevent "double-dipping."

the transportation money has gone to **replacing stolen or unsalvageable** means of transportation such as a stolen bike or car destroyed by arson. This is only done if a bike or car is the primary mode of transportation for the individual and needed for their daily life. (Parallel Justice does not replace stolen children's bikes, for example, although a local business does offer a discount to parents looking to replace them.) The final 10% of transportation expenses **address needs directly resulting** from the crime, such as towing a car to a repair shop, paying to relocate a victim as stated above, or putting a gas cap that locks on a victims' car to prevent tampering.

Sometimes, **repairing damaged property** is essential to restore a victim's *security* – such as repairing a broken house window or door after a burglary. On occasion, the Victims' Fund has been used to **replace stolen property** when not doing so would leave a victim in a vulnerable position, such as helping a freelance carpenter replace stolen tools so they can continue to work. Lastly, one of the most important ways the Victims' Fund helps victims is by **addressing needs that arise as a result of the crime**. Frequently, this happens when money is stolen and a victim is unable to pay for *basic needs* like rent, utilities, or food. In one case, after a mothers purse was stolen with her cashed paycheck inside, the Victims' Fund was able to buy diapers for her baby. The other main way Parallel justice helps with *basic needs* is to help with unpaid medical expenses.

Victim Fund Spending by category and impact: first 5 years



Appendix:

Commission Membership

Chief Michael Schirling or Lt. Morrison, Burlington Police Department, 1 North Ave. Burlington, VT 05401 (802) 658-2704, mschirling@bpdvt.org

Cathleen Wilson, Executive Director, HOPE Works., PO Box 92 Burlington, VT 05402 (802) 864-0555 ext. 28, cathleen@hopeworksvt.org

Anna LaPerle, Crime Victim Advisory, Vermont Center for Crime Victim Services, community volunteer.

Jan Van Bruen, Director or Jennifer Davis, Direct Services Program Director, Women Helping Battered Women, PO Box 1535 Burlington, VT 05402, (802) 658-3131, ext. 1066 janev@whbw.org

Kelly Dougherty, Health Center Manager, Planned Parenthood of Northern New England, 183 St. Paul St. Burlington, VT 05401 (802) 863-6326 kelly.dougherty@ppnne.org

Kim Fountain, Director, RU12, LGBTQ statewide victim service provider, PO Box 5883 Burlington, VT 05401 (802) 860-7812, kim@ru12.org

Clarence Davis, Director of State Relations, Office of Federal, State and Community Relations, The University of Vermont, 300 Waterman Building, Burlington, VT 05405 (802) 656-2593 Clarence.Davis@uvm.edu

Emily Anderson, VSA Arts of Vermont, 111 College Street, Burlington, VT 05401 Emily@vsavt.org

Jane Helmstetter, Field Director, Agency of Human Services, 63 Pearl St. Burlington, VT 05402, (802) 651-1684, jane.helmstetter@state.vt.us

Judy Rex, Executive Director, Vt. Center for Crime Victim Services, 58 South Main Street Waterbury, VT 05676 (802) 241-1250 ext. 106, jrex@ccvs.state.vt.us

T. J. Donovan Chittenden County State's Attorney, 32 Cherry Street, Burlington, VT 05401 thomas.donovan@state.vt.us

Armina Medic (802) 652-0384 or Steve Howard (802)-652-0264, State's Attorney Victim Advocate, 32 Cherry Street, Burlington, VT 05401, armina.medic@state.vt.us

Jason Williams, Government and Community Relations Strategist, Fletcher Allen Health Care, Patrick 215, 111 Colchester Ave., Burlington, VT 05401 (802) 847-2912 jason.williams@vtmednet.org

Heather Danis, Health Services District Director of the Burlington District Office, VT Department of Health, 108 Cherry Street, PO Box 70, Burlington, VT 05401 heather.danis@ahs.state.vt.us

Representative Suzi Wizowaty, Legislator, Burlington, VT,
wizowaty@burlingtontelecom.net

Alison Calderara, Director of Community Relations and Development; Community Health Centers of Burlington, 184 S. Winooski Ave., Burlington VT., acalderara@chcb.org

Bram Kranichfeld, Deputy State's Attorney and Burlington City Councilor,
bwkranic@yahoo.com

JoAnn Winterbottom, Director of the Laura K. Winterbottom Fund, jjpw@earthlink.net

Parallel Justice Project Coordinators:

Sharon Davis, Vermont Center for Crime Victim Services, 58 South Main St. Waterbury, VT 05676-1599, (802) 241-1250 ext. 111, sharon.davis@ccvs.state.vt.us

Lt. Jennifer Morrison, Burlington Police Department, 1 North Ave. Burlington VT, 05401 (802) 658-2704, jmorrison@bpdvt.org

Karen Vastine, Community Justice Center 125 College Street, 2nd Floor, Burlington, VT 05401 (802) 865-7185, kvastine@ci.Burlington.vt.us

Parallel Justice Staff:

Rain Banbury, Parallel Justice Specialist, Community Justice Center 125 College Street, 2nd Floor, Burlington, VT 05401 (802) 264-0764, rbanbury@ci.Burlington.vt.us

Clark Sheldon, Parallel Justice Specialist, Burlington Police Department, 1 North Ave. Burlington VT, 05401 (802) 540-2394, csheldon@bpdvt.org